

USSN: 10/072,575
Attorney Docket No.: 2002B004
Amdt. dated August 6, 2003
Reply to Office action of May 7, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A coextruded, multilayer film structure comprising a polymer substrate, the polymer substrate comprising:

(a) a core layer comprising a film-forming polyolefin, the core layer having a first side and a second side; and

(b) a skin layer coextruded on the first side of the core layer, wherein the skin layer comprises an extrusion-grade, film-forming ethylene acid terpolymer resin composition comprising (i) polyethylene, (ii) acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, or mixtures thereof, and (iii) alkyl acrylate, alkyl methacrylate, or mixtures thereof, said extrusion-grade ethylene acid terpolymer resin having a molecular weight of from 50,000 to 1,000,000.

Claim 2 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the polymer substrate is produced by a process comprising the following steps (1) and (2):

(1) coextruding the core layer and the skin layer; and

(2) orienting the coextruded core layer and skin layer.

Claim 3 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 2, wherein the orientation in step (2) is biaxial orientation.

Claim 4 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the polymer substrate is produced by a process comprising:

(1) extruding and orienting the core layer in a machine direction; and

(2) extruding the skin layer onto the first side of the machine direction-oriented core

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layer and then orienting the skin layer and the machine direction-oriented core layer in a transverse direction.

Claim 5 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the polyolefin of the core layer is isotactic polypropylene.

Claim 6 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the polyolefin of the core layer is high density polyethylene.

Claim 7 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the ethylene acid terpolymer contains a total of from about 0.5 wt% to about 6 wt% of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, or mixtures thereof, based on the total weight of the ethylene acid terpolymer.

Claim 8 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the ethylene acid terpolymer contains a total of from about 6 wt% to about 20 wt% of alkyl acrylate, alkyl methacrylate, or mixtures thereof, based on the total weight of the ethylene acid terpolymer.

Claim 9 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the skin layer (b) is a first skin layer and the core layer (a) has a second skin layer (c) on the second side of the core layer, and further wherein the polymer substrate comprises the core layer (a), the first skin layer (b), and the second skin layer (c).

Claim 10 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 9, wherein the second skin layer (c) is selected from the group consisting of ethylene homopolymers, propylene homopolymers, ethylene-propylene copolymers, propylene-butene-1 copolymers, ethylene-propylene-butene-1 terpolymers, and blends thereof.

Claim 11 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the skin layer (b) is surface-treated by flame treatment, corona discharge treatment, or plasma treatment.

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Claim 12 (original): The multilayer film structure of claim 11, wherein a metal layer is deposited on the skin layer (b) of the polymer substrate, the metal layer being deposited on the surface of the skin layer (b) opposite the core layer (a).

Claim 13 (new): The multilayer film structure of claim 1, wherein the ethylene acid terpolymer contains a total of from about 0.5 wt% to about 6 wt% of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, or mixtures thereof, based on the total weight of the ethylene acid terpolymer, and the ethylene acid terpolymer contains a total of from about 6 wt% to about 20 wt% of alkyl acrylate, alkyl methacrylate, or mixtures thereof, based on the total weight of the ethylene acid terpolymer.